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**The Green Party of New Mexico  
PO Box 22485, Santa Fe, NM 87502**

September 27, 1997

**Federal Election Commission  
Office of General Counsel  
999 E. Street N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20463**

To Whom It May Concern,

\* Enclosed are several documents relevant to this Request for an Advisory Opinion as to whether the Green Council of the Green Party of New Mexico qualifies as a State party committee of the Green Party of New Mexico. These documents include the Uniform State Rules of the Green Party of New Mexico and documents relating to the campaigns of Carol Miller in 1997 for U. S. Representative; the campaign of John A. (Jack) Uhrich for U. S. Representative in 1996; the campaign of Abraham Gutmann for U. S. Senate in 1996; and the campaign of Rex Johnson for U. S. Representative in 1994. Also included with this documentation is an "Affiliation Agreement" entered into between the Green Party of New Mexico and the Association of State Green Parties founded in November of 1996 at Middleburg Virginia. Also enclosed are recent copies of the Green Council minutes which are circulated throughout the various chapters of the New Mexico Green Party.

The Green Party of New Mexico operates between general Convention meetings through the Green Council of the Green Party of New Mexico. The Green Council consists of "members from all Local Organizations and Unorganized Locals" of the Green Party of New Mexico. The purpose of the Council is to:

serve as the executive committee to the State Party organization. It has authority to act as the State Convention in between Convention meetings with the exception of Rules and Platform changes. (See Uniform State Rules of the Green Party of New Mexico (1997) at 7)

The Green Party of New Mexico is a state affiliate of the Association of State Green Parties (ASGP). Under its affiliation agreement with the ASGP the New Mexico Green Party is required to elect two delegates (one female, and one male if possible) to serve in a decision-making role with the Association of State Green Parties at general meetings of its Coordinating Committee. Under the affiliation agreement, the Green Party of New Mexico has adopted the provisional Bylaws of the ASGP, which govern State Party participation on issue committees, the Coordinating Committee and the Steering Committee. The New Mexico Green Party has also agreed to pursue activities commensurate with the day to day operation of a state political party including voter registration, fund raising and support of candidates for State, local and federal offices.

\* Candidate documents not attached because not directly relevant. They show vote totals certified by NM election officials.  
NLC 12-30-97

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**The Green Party of New Mexico has run the following candidates for federal office:**

**In 1994 Rex Johnson was chosen as the Green Party candidate for U. S. Representative, 2nd District. His candidacy was endorsed by the New Mexico Green Party State Convention.**

**In 1996 Jack Uhrich was chosen as the Green Party candidate for U. S. Representative, 1st District. His candidacy was endorsed by the New Mexico Green Party and he won final nomination in a contested Green Party primary election.**

**In 1996 Abraham Gutmann was chosen as the Green Party candidate for U. S. Senate. His candidacy was endorsed by the New Mexico Green Party and he won final nomination in a contested Green Party primary election.**

**In 1997 Carol Miller was chosen as the Green Party candidate for U.S. Representative, 3<sup>rd</sup> District (special election). Her candidacy was endorsed by the State Convention of the New Mexico Green Party.**

**The Green Party of New Mexico is also the only "third" party in New Mexico history to achieve "major party status" pursuant to the New Mexico election code. This has enabled the New Mexico Green Party to hold primaries for the selection of general election candidates.**

**In Advisory Opinion 1992-30, the Federal Election Commission determined the elements necessary to qualify and organization as a state committee. The first requirement was the existence of a state affiliate agreement which "delineates activities commensurate with the day-to-day operation of [a political party] on a State level." (See A.O. 1992-30, 1996-27 and 1995-49.) The definition of State committee also requires the existence of a political party.**

**We believe that the New Mexico Green Party qualifies as a "political party". Under 2 U.S.C. § 431(16), a political party is defined as an association, committee, or organization which nominates a candidate for election to any Federal office whose name appears on the election ballot as the candidate of such association, committee, or organization. The four candidates mentioned earlier in this communication; namely Rex Johnson, Jack Uhrich and Abraham Gutmann, and Carol Miller appeared on the ballot for federal offices as candidates of the New Mexico Green Party. We believe that this qualifies the New Mexico Green Party as a "political party".**

**We also believe that the Green Party of New Mexico's Green Council and other subordinate entities qualify as a "State committee". The Uniform State Rules of the New Mexico Green Party delineate activities commensurate with the day-to-day operation of the Green Party within the State of New Mexico.**

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**The Uniform State Rules state that they were adopted by the Annual Gathering of the Green Party of New Mexico in 1995 to amend, replace and supersede in their entirety any and all existing Rules for the organizing and governing of the New Mexico Green Party, beginning thirty (30) days after the filing of this document with the Secretary of State of the State of New Mexico. (See Uniform State Rules at 1)**

**In addition, the State Rules provide that:**

**The Ten Key Values shall remain embodied in the internal structure and process and public activities of the Green Party of New Mexico at its State and Local levels. (See Uniform State Rules at 1)**

**Furthermore, the Uniform State Rules provide a process for:**

- (1) Electing Presidential Electors (See Page 6);**
- (2) Electing Officers of the New Mexico Green Party (See Page 4);**
- (3) Defining Local Organizations and Unorganized Locals (See Page 5);**
- (4) Delineating Membership and Voting for State Conventions (See Page 6); and**
- (5) Holding Pre-primary Conventions of the New Mexico Green Party (See Page 9).**

**We also believe that the granting of State committee status to the Green Party of New Mexico and its subordinate bodies is consistent with the granting of State committee status to the Green Party of New York State (in Advisory Opinion 1996-43). We would note that in the instant request, the Green Party of New Mexico is a "major party" within the State of New Mexico and has run several candidates for State and federal offices in contrast to the one candidate claimed by the Green Party of New York State.**

**In addition, the national organization with which the Green Party of New Mexico has affiliated - the Association of State Green Parties (ASGP) - was founded as an organization entirely based on autonomous, independent state parties. The ASGP consists of a Coordinating Committee (composed of two representative delegates from each state party), and a Steering Committee (composed of five individuals elected by the Coordinating Committee). This organization operates to establish a national electoral framework for political campaigns and the qualification of State parties for State party committee status.**

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We thus submit this Request for an Advisory Opinion on the question of whether the Green Party of New Mexico and its constituent, subordinate entities qualify as a State committee of a political party.

We thank you for your immediate attention to this important matter.

Signed this date of *October 10, 1997*

Tammy Davis

*Tammy Davis*  
Co-Chair, Green Party of New Mexico

*Signed October 14, 1997*  
Rick Lass

*Rick Lass*  
Co-Chair, Green Party of New Mexico

*Elizabeth M. Wirth, Notary Public*  
*Santa Fe County, New Mexico*  
*My Commission Expires 3-1-2000*

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UNIFORM STATE RULES

UNIFORM RULES OF THE GREEN PARTY OF NEW  
MEXICO

Preamble

The "UNIFORM RULES OF THE GREEN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO" set forth in this document were adopted by the Annual Gathering of the Green Party of New Mexico on \_\_\_\_\_, 1995 to amend, replace and supersede in their entirety any and all existing Rules for the organization and governing of the New Mexico Green Party, beginning thirty (30) days after the filing of this document with the Secretary of State of the State of New Mexico.

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND VALUES**

A. The Ten Key Values. The Ten Key Values shall remain embodied in the internal structure and process and public activities of the Green Party of New Mexico, at its State and Local levels. These Values are:

1. Ecological Wisdom
2. Grassroots Democracy
3. Personal and Social Responsibility
4. Nonviolence
5. Decentralization
6. Community-based Economics
7. Post-Patriarchal Values
8. Respect for Diversity

9. Global Responsibility
10. Future Focus/ Sustainability

B. Political Practices

1. Grassroots Democracy - The Green Party of New Mexico is an organization structured as a confederation based on Local Organizations and Unorganized Locals. Every level of confederation in the Green Party of New Mexico shall be responsible for establishing an organization structure consistent with the principles of grassroots democracy, including:

a. Accountability to membership base.

(1) Each level of confederation shall remain structured so that its parts - working groups, committees, and so forth - are accountable to the membership base as manifested through the Local Organizations, Unorganized Locals, the State Convention and the Green Council.

(2) Immediate Recall - Representatives at every level shall always be immediately recallable by the bodies that choose them, as provided for in the current Working Guidelines.

(3) Imperative Mandate - Imperative mandate means that representatives must follow the instructions of the bodies they represent. Representatives are free to express their personal views, but must vote as instructed. Locals may give their

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delegates mandates of discretion to be negotiated, and positions taken on issues not specifically discussed at the Local level. The use of non-negotiable mandated positions shall be the right of every Local Organization and Unorganized Local, but should be carefully considered.

**(4) Freedom to Speak and Caucuses Around Political Views -**

Members in the minority on a decision may publicly dissent from that decision, and organize caucuses to promote their views, provided they clearly distinguish their position from that of the majority. To ensure that their views are represented at larger confederated levels of the organization, minorities may call for a procedure of political division in the allocation of mandated proportional votes, as specified in these Rules and Regulations.

**(5) Affirmative Action -** Every level of the Party shall take affirmative action to reach goals of sexual, racial, and social diversity and balance in the allocation of responsibilities among members. All levels of the Party shall work to ensure that the diversity of local Green groups interested in participation are included.

**(6) Freedom of Information -** Meetings and records of finances, membership, minutes, and so on at any level shall be open to inspection by any members in good standing on that level.

**(7) Process Standards -** Policies against the following shall apply at all levels of the Green Party of New Mexico. Violation by any individual Green or Local Organization or Unorganized Local may be cause for sanctions included (as appropriate) reprimand, suspension or loss of accreditation, recall or expulsion.

(a) Committing the Green Party of New Mexico or any of its affiliates to actions, endorsements, and other policy positions outside that decision-making process.

(b) Misrepresenting the decisions and policies of any such Green Party body.

(c) Financial irregularities with Green Party funds.

(d) Advocacy or practice of racial, sexual, national, or religious discrimination.

(e) Advocacy or practice of violent political action by the Green Party of New Mexico or any of its affiliated Locals.

(f) Violating the principles of grassroots democracy.

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RULE 1. DEFINITIONS

- 1-1. Organizational Definitions For purposes of conformity with New Mexico Election Code, the following definitions apply:  
State Convention equals State Central Committee.
- 1-2. Local Organizations A Local Organization is a contiguous group of precincts formed by the Green Council to conduct Green Party activities within its borders.
- A. Local Organization may cross over county lines.
- B. The State Convention or Green Council can approve the creation of new Local Organizations.
- C. A Local Organization is changed with fostering community empowerment and Party growth within its borders.
- 1-3. Voting Percentage Calculations For the purpose of counting a vote on any action, abstentions do not count for or against the percentage required for said action. (I.e. With 100 people voting and a 75% required vote, a result of 70 yes, 20 no, and 10 abstentions, the vote passes because 70 is 77% of the 90 people who cast a non-abstention vote.

RULE 2. PARTY NAME - SEAL

- 2-1. Party Name. The name of the Green Party organization shall be the "Green Party of New Mexico".

- 2-2. Local Organization Names. The Name of each Local Green Party organization of each county, Pueblo, tribe, or region in the State of New Mexico Shall be the "Green Party of \_\_\_\_\_" with the appropriate name inserted.

- 2-3. Seal. The official seal of the Green Party of New Mexico and the Green parties of each of the counties of the state of New Mexico shall be a modified Zia symbol rising over a mountainscape, as shown in Appendix 13. A facsimile of the seal is attached to these rules.

RULE 3. PARTY MEMBERSHIP

- 3-1. Party Membership Any qualified voter in New Mexico whose properly registered Political Party affiliation is "Green" shall be considered a member of the Green Party of New Mexico and of the Green Party of the County in which the voter is so registered and is eligible to participate in Green Party affairs in accordance with these rules.

- 3-2. Qualification for elective party office No person shall be qualified to be elected to a party office unless they are registered with the Green Party of New Mexico or unless otherwise excepted in these Rules and Regulations.

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**RULE 4. GOVERNING BODIES**

4-1. Representative Bodies. The affairs of the Green Party of New Mexico shall be governed by representative bodies which at the state level shall be the State Convention, and, at the local level shall be interested greens who reside in the Local Organization or Unorganized Local.

**4-2. Officers**

A. The officers of the State Party organization shall consist of

Two Co-Chairs (One of each gender);  
A Secretary;  
and A Treasurer

B. The officers of Local Organizations shall consist of:

Two Co-Chairs (One of each gender);  
A Secretary;  
A Treasurer;  
Members to the Green Council;  
and Members to the State Convention.

4-3. County Central Committees. The Green Party of New Mexico shall have no standing County Central Committee. For the purposes of fulfilling state law, if a County Central Committee is required to conduct an official action, Local

Organizations and Unorganized Locals that contain precincts in the county then a special election to elect temporary delegates to a County Convention. A call will be issued by the Co-Chairs of the state party specifying the number of delegates to be elected in each Local Organization or Unorganized Local. The call shall also affix the time and place for the County Central Committee meeting. Although Local organizations and Unorganized Locals can contain precincts outside of the said county having a convention, no delegates can be elected from an organization that does not reside within the county having the central committee meeting.

4-4. Terms of Office. The terms of all elected officers and elected representatives of governing bodies is one year beginning on the first day after that person's election until that person's successor is elected or appointed.

4-5. Recall. State Party officers can be recalled if they fail in the above duties. If the Green Council deems it necessary to initiate a recall process on a State Party Officer, a legal notice and must be placed in a locally distributed newspaper calling for a recall election without specifying by name the member up for recall. Such member shall also be notified by registered mail and any other forms of communication necessary. Recall of Green Council members is done by the Local which that Council member is from.

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RULE 5. LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

5-1. Election of Officers. At an organizational meeting of each Local Organization to be held before the regular Annual State Convention and immediately following the selection of the new representatives to the State Green Convention, the Local Convention shall elect

Two Co-Chairpersons (One of each gender);  
A Secretary; Treasurer;  
and Members to the Green Council.

5-2. Term of Office: The term of each elected officer of each Local Organization shall begin the first day following their election, and that person shall serve for one year until their successor is duly elected or replaced.

5-3. Local Organization Officers - Duties and Powers

A. Co-Chairs The powers and duties of the State Party Co-Chairs are as follows:

Duty to call, with proper notice, the day of the elections of the Local Organization during the week of the State Co-Chairs call as required by these Rules;  
Duty to appoint a facilitator for meetings of the Local Organization;

Power to act as general spokespersons for the Local Organization and the duty to use this charge with great responsibility and sensitivity to the consensus of the Local Organization.

B. Secretary The Secretary of the Local Organization shall carefully preserve all of the minutes of the Local Organization. The Secretary shall also be the conduit for contact with the media on Local Organization activity.

C. Treasurer The Treasurer of the Local Organization shall keep the account of the Local Organization.

5-4. Vacancies: Any vacancy occurring in the office of any Local Organization officer shall be filled at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Local Organization.

5-5. Unorganized Locals

A. Unorganized Locals are a grouping of precincts and counties that are not represented by Local Organizations.

B. The State Convention or Green Council shall approve the areas covered by an Unorganized Local.

C. An Unorganized Local is charged with fostering community empowerment and Party growth within its borders and to encourage Local Organizations to form within its area.

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D. Elected Officers, Powers and Duties of said officers and contingencies for vacancy of offices are the same as those of Local Organizations.

**RULE 6. STATE CONVENTION**

**6-1. Powers and Duties**

A. Delegation of any part of its authority to an elected State Green Council can be granted by the State Convention.

B. The State Convention shall have the power to:

Elect the officers of the State Party (Majority by Preferential Vote);

Adopt changes to the Rules and Regulations of the State Party (66% Vote);

Adopt changes to the New Mexico State Party Platform (66% Vote);

Recall State Officers (Majority);

Conduct a Special Election to fill a vacancy on the ballot as per state law ;

Elect Presidential Electors; and settle factional differences and to prevent damage to the Party welfare.

C. If the State Convention, finds that any Local Organization's or Unorganized Local's election was improperly held, where any

dispute involving factional differences is presented, to the State Convention, it shall have the power to resolve that dispute.

6-2. Appointment of Members The State Convention members shall consist of a membership of members as follows:

One Member from each Local Organization or Unorganized Local;

One additional member from each Local Organization or Unorganized Local for each percent of registered Green Party voters as a total of the statewide registered Green Party voters;

and a number of Non-Voting constituency representatives as deemed appropriate by the Green Council.

**6-3. State Officers - Powers and Duties**

A. Co-Chairs The powers and duties of the State Party Co-Chairs are as follows:

Power to call, with proper notice, meetings of the State Convention at such times they deem as proper and shall have the duty to call such meetings when required by these Rules; Duty to appoint a facilitator for meetings of the State Convention or the Green Council;

Duty to specify the week for the holding of meetings to elect any party officers and governing body representatives;

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Power to act as general spokespersons for the State Party and the duty to use this charge with great responsibility and sensitivity to the consensus of the State Party.

B. Secretary The Secretary of the State Party shall carefully preserve all of the minutes of the State Convention and Green Council. The Secretary shall also be the conduit for contact with the media on State Party Activity.

C. Treasurer The Treasurer of the State Party shall keep the account of the State Party and shall act as facilitator of a State Budget Committee.

D. Green Council The Green Council shall serve as the executive committee to the state party organization. It has authority to act as the State Convention in between Convention meetings with the exception of bylaws and platform changes. The Council, however, can amend the bylaws to meet specific legal challenges. All decisions shall be made by consensus. If consensus is blocked, then actions can be approved by the following schedule:

- 75% for recall of State Party Officers;
- 66 2/3% for Approving endorsements or substantive proposals; motions to close or extend debate, table, or send to committee;
- 50% for meeting specific process motions not already specified.

1. The Green Council shall consist of members from all Local Organizations and Unorganized Locals.

2. Green Council members shall be "active" members of their Locals and are expected to consult their Locals on a regular basis.

3. Green Council members, if not mandated by their Locals, are free to vote as they wish. Members must consult their Locals on major issues if there is time available.

4. Proxies. Proxy votes can be accepted under the following conditions:

a) The Green Council must have written notification of the proxy from another Council member.

b) The member giving the proxy needs to specify the nature of the proxy. (General or Specific)

c) A proxy may be given to a Council member from another Local, but it must be a specific proxy to a certain issue.

d) No more than one proxy can be held by a Green Council member. Proxies cannot be held by non Green Council members or Alternates.

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- e) Locals may elect Alternates at their regularly scheduled Local election. Such Alternates shall act as full voting members of the Council in the absence of that Local's representative.
5. **Membership** Membership on the Green Council shall be determined by the following schedule: If the Local contain registered Greens  
From 3 to 50, the Local gets 1 member.  
From 51 to 300, the Local gets 2 members.  
From 300 to 999, the Local gets 3 members.  
And, From 1000+, the Local gets 4 members.
6. **Recall** Council members can be recalled if they fail in the above duties. If a Local deems it necessary to initiate a recall process on a Green Council member, a legal notice and must be placed in a locally distributed newspaper calling for a recall election without specifying by name the member up for recall. Such member shall also be notified by registered mail and any other forms of communication necessary.
- 6-4. **Vacancies:** Any vacancy occurring in the office of any State Party officer shall be filled by the nomination of a qualified replacement by the Co-Chairs and approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Convention or Green Council, except for Green Council members, who are elected by their Local Organizations or Unorganized Local. Vacancy

occurring in the office of Co-Chair shall be filled by nominations from the Green Council and approved by the Green Council.

**RULE 7. PARTY ELECTIONS**

**7-1. State Convention Elections**

- A. **Regular Annual State Convention Elections** At least thirty (30) days prior to the convention to be held annually in the month of March, the Co-Chairs of the State Party shall make the Call for the purpose of:  
Fixing the time, date, and public place for holding of the State Convention;  
Determine the number of delegates to the State Convention from each Local Organization and Unorganized Local;  
Provide for the nomination of Temporary Officers of the State Convention;  
Fixing time and place for consideration of contests to election of a delegation to the State Convention ;  
and Place for consideration any other proper business.  
The Secretary of the State Party shall mail the Call to all current State Convention Members, current Green Council Members, and the mailing addresses of all Local Organizations and Unorganized Locals.

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B. State Convention - Special Elections. At least thirty (30) days prior to a special election, the Co-Chairs of the State Party shall make the Call for the reason to:

Fill a vacancy on the statewide ballot as per state law;  
Elect Presidential Electors;  
or, to call the State Convention for consideration of any proper State Party business.  
The call shall be published by the Co-Chairs of the Local Organizations and Unorganized Locals in a newspaper of general circulation at least fourteen days prior to the meeting. The notice shall specify the time, public place, and date for holding the meeting.

C. Voting Systems and requirements - State Convention. The voting system for all offices shall be preferential ballot.

7-2. State Pre-Primary Convention Elections

A. Regular Biennial State Pre-Primary Convention Elections. At least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled date for the Pre-Primary Convention on every even-numbered year, the Co-Chairs of the State Party shall make the Call for the purpose of:  
Fixing the time, date, and public place for holding of the State Convention;

Determine the number of delegates to the State Pre-Primary Convention from each Local Organization and Unorganized Local;  
Provide for the nomination of Temporary Officers of the State Convention;  
Fixing time and place for consideration of contests to election of a delegation to the State Convention;  
and Place for consideration any other proper business.  
The Secretary of the State Party shall mail the Call to all current State Convention Members, current Green Council Members, and the mailing addresses of all Local Organizations and Unorganized Locals.

B. Voting Systems and requirements - State Pre-Primary Convention. The voting system for all delegates is by preferential ballot as explained in appendix A.

RULE 8. NONE OF THE ABOVE

8-1. Pre-Primary Convention. On the Pre-Primary Convention ballot the ballot option of "None of the Above" shall be placed with the names of candidates appearing on the ballot. A plurality of votes for "None of the Above" does not disqualify a candidate for the primary ballot if said candidate acquires at least 20% of the pre-primary convention's vote as per state statute.

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**8-2. Primary Ballot** All positions with candidate names on the primary ballot shall have the ballot option "None of the Above" printed on the ballot. "None of the Above" shall

occupy the last position where it appears. If "None of the Above" receives a plurality of the votes cast for that office, no candidate is nominated for that particular position.

**OFFICIAL AFFILIATION AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN  
The Green Party of New Mexico  
AND  
The Association of State Green Parties**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 1997 that the Green Party of New Mexico (NMGP) agrees to formally affiliate with the Association of State Green Parties, and formally agrees to abide by the provisional Bylaws of the Association.

It is understood that the NMGP shall appoint two delegates from New Mexico to represent the NMGP on the Coordinating/Steering Committee of the Association. It is also understood that these two representatives should be gender balanced.

It is also agreed that the undersigned NMGP reserves all rights and powers to the NMGP that are not given, through the provisional Bylaws of the Association, to the Association of State Green Parties.

It is also agreed that the NMGP will continue to conduct voter registration drives in the State of New Mexico.

It is also agreed that the NMGP will use its best efforts to support ballot access for national candidates nominated by the Association of State Green Parties and candidates nominated by the NMGP.

It is also agreed that the NMGP will conduct a State convention, at minimum, once each election year.

It is also agreed that the NMGP will solicit contributions for State, local and national Green Party candidates.

It is also agreed that the NMGP will make its best efforts to nominate candidates for State, local and federal offices.

It is also agreed that the NMGP shall operate according to the bylaws of the NMGP as filed with New Mexico's Secretary of State.

The following representatives of the NMGP, acting pursuant to the Bylaws of the Green Party of New Mexico, swear that they are empowered to enter into this affiliation agreement with the Association of State Green Parties.

Signed this <sup>19<sup>th</sup></sup> Day of October, 1997  
Tammy Davis  
Co-Chair, Green Party of New Mexico

Signed October 14, 1997  
Rick Lass  
Co-Chair, Green Party of New Mexico

Elizabeth M. Wirth, Notary Public  
Santa Fe County, New Mexico  
My Commission Expires 3-1-2000

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STEPHANIE GONZALES  
SECRETARY OF STATE



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
SANTA FE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

March 14, 1996

Ms. Clara Foeller  
6733 San Luis Obispo Ave. NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Dear Ms. Foeller,

Pursuant to Section 1-7-5, NMSA 1978, the amendments to the Uniform State Rules of the Green Party of New Mexico, adopted at your convention held on November 18, 1995, have been accepted for filing by this office with the exception of Rule 8-2. The Election Code of New Mexico does not provide for the procedure specified in Rule 8-2.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise Lamb", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Denise Lamb, Director  
Bureau of Elections



# Chili Verde



Issue 1

Newsletter of the New Mexico Green Party

Summer 1996

## Greens join in unified '96 campaign

By Alan Sembera

Media pundits are calling 1996 the year of the third party, but New Mexicans got wise two years ago. Since voters demanded another choice two years ago, the Green Party has been building up its base here and hopes to set an example for the rest of the country.

Volunteers and candidates already have been knocking on doors, sending out fundraising appeals, speaking to civic groups, strengthening community ties and addressing the real issues facing our state and nation. We already are two months ahead of where we were in 1994 in terms of campaign organizing, and our numbers have increased more than seven-fold.

Meanwhile the governing party (with its Democratic and Republican wings) is floundering for lack of leadership and vision, giving voters even more reasons for wanting change.

Greens candidates are also pooling their scarce resources to get the most impact out of every volunteer effort and dollar. The Unified Green '96 Campaign opened an Albuquerque office in July at 144 Harvard SE, allowing canvassers and other volunteers to work from a central location. Another office in the Northeast Heights will be available later in the campaign.

he party also is looking for office space and volunteers in the Santa Fe, Los Cruces and Taos areas. Our wish list also includes computer equipment, furniture, workshop space (for making our own signs), and cash

(Continued on page 3)



## What a rotten idea!

800+ compost bins sold

By Tammy Davis

The Santa Fe Green Party, in cooperation with the City of Santa Fe and the College of Santa Fe, hosted a compost bin sale June 13. More than 800 Santa Feans took home a compost bin at less than wholesale prices and are beginning to compost their food and yard scraps.

Compost helps retain moisture in the soil, saving precious water, and retards weeds without using harmful poisons.

An average household can divert as much as one ton a year from going to the landfill and keep the rewards at home. It may even be possible to lower your refuse bill and keep our city from having to search for more and more space for landfills by putting out less.

Each bin is made from 200 recycled milk jugs and can process up to 600 pounds of "waste" a year and turn it into a moisture-retaining, nutrient-rich layer of mulch for the garden. This means residents have reused over 160,000 milk jugs and will potentially save 480,000 pounds of "garbage" from going to the landfill. Talk about turning garbage into gold! Way to go Santa Fe! Lets do it again in the fall.

(Continued on page 3)

## Another Green Victory!

By Cris Moore

On March 5, Green Party member Fran Sena Gallegos was elected as the new Municipal Judge of Santa Fe.

Gallegos received 5,900 votes or 44%, beating three-term incumbent Tom Fiorina by 256 votes — just over 1%. Four other candidates shared the remaining 13% of the vote.

In 1992, Gallegos ran as the Green candidate for Municipal Judge, receiving a surprising 43% of the vote. She now joins City Councilor Cris Moore as the second elected Green in New Mexico.

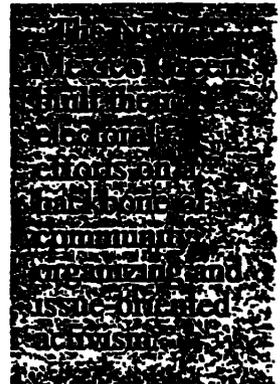
Fiorina was weakened by a judicial ethics investigation and allegations of sexual harassment. He blamed his defeat on new arrivals to Santa Fe and a negative media.

However, it is worth noting that Gallegos received significant support in every precinct of the City, including the native-dominated South and West sides. She received over 25% in her worst precinct, and over 35% in all others.

Green Party member Miguel Chavez also ran a credible race on the West side against powerful incumbent Art Sanchez, receiving 33% or 824 votes — showing that the Greens can do well in this largely Hispanic constituency.

Most Third Party efforts are limited

(Continued on page 3)



Find out what's happening in your part of the state.....pages 4-6  
Help launch presidential run at Green Gathering '96.....page 2

## From a ripple to a storm

By Mike Castro  
Co-chair, Green Party of New Mexico

Among the many dynamic discussions that take place within the vital diversity of views inside the Green Party is one that might be characterized in Buddhist terms: Do we follow the "gradual" or "sudden" path of enlightenment?

The Buddhist do not choose. They accept both paths simultaneously, which of course is the only wise or green thing to do. The gradual path of steady party-building through activism and community empowerment is a continuous commitment that never lets up. Meanwhile, every so often, there is the opportunity for the sudden flash, the satori, the breakthrough, that can catalyze large-scale shifts of consciousness.

In politics, as you might expect, these opportunities tend to clump around election campaigns. But as you might not expect, you don't necessarily have to win an election to cause a meaningful catalytic ripple.

Out here in the outback of American politics, the Greens of New Mexico are poised to deliver a catalytic tsunami to the stagnant Sargasso Sea of two-

party politics-as-usual that most of the rest of America is still adrift upon.

In 1994, we left a permanent mark on New Mexico history and changed the political dialogue here, merely by breaking 10% in a handful of statewide races.

In 1996 with Ralph Nader likely to end up on more than 40 state ballots as the Green Party candidate for President, taking the Green message into prime time nationally, the impact of Green successes in New Mexico and elsewhere will extend into the national consciousness and beyond.

In 1994, Greens were squarely up against the "spoiler" argument in two of the three statewide races and received only 10% of the vote instead of the over 25% that had expressed "preference" for Greens in the polls. This year, in 1996, there is no spoiler argument to be made against us. Greens could be starting with 25% of the actual vote this time, not just a preference.

Needless to say, 25% in a statewide race by a third party would stun the political establishment and would cause American voters the peer into New Mexico politics to see what all the hoopla was about.

We New Mexico Greens have two big opportunities, two big jobs ahead of us:

The first job is to seize the moment

and grab the national spotlight by running strong and inspiring campaigns.

The second job is more important and actually comes first, and involves what the nation will see when they actually do get around to shining the light on us.

What they've got to see is some kind of light shining back that will really knock some wisdom and compassion into our shallow, greedy politics; that will knock some hopeful energy in place of the fearful apathy that currently plagues our people.

The light that they're going to see shining back must come from us New Mexico Greens and our allies, our hearts, our minds, and the fires of our energetic efforts.

Please don't hold back, oh my brothers and sisters. Go ahead and take personal initiative in as big a way as you possibly can (call talk shows, write letters, make banners, pass out flyers.) Call us up, help us out, contribute cash.

If we stay steady and true, the gradual path will get us there some day; but in these shifting times of high potential not even the sky is the limit for an idea whose time has come.

Hey Greens, hey people, it's that time ... let's DO IT!

### NM has high hopes for Green Gathering '96 Party may endorse national Nader campaign

New Mexico Greens hope to repeat their success in the state at a national level by running a strong candidate for president this year.

Local Greens are working on guidelines for a national nominating process to be presented at the Green Gathering '96: "Building Critical Mass" Aug. 15-19 in Los Angeles.

The gathering will attract Greens from around the country and the world. It's goal is to build a working coalition that will challenge the corporate dominance of society and offer a just, democratic and ecological alternative.

Anyone may register for the event (see insert). New Mexico Greens planning to attend are encouraged to meet on Aug. 11 at the UNM Law School at 2 p.m. to plan strategies and coordinate transportation.

Core to this strategy is the development of

national platform, an effort which is headed by the Santa Fe Platform Formation Committee Team

The Platform '96 is based on the New Mexico Green Party Platform and the platforms of other green and progressive organizations

Other Greens are leading the 40-State Green Organizing Project, which is designed to give us national ballot access and build the Green Party in other states

In New Mexico's June primary, voters overwhelmingly favored Ralph Nader for President. Many local activists plan to work toward an endorsement of Nader as the Green's national candidate during the gathering's nominating convention.

Supporters of other candidates also will have a chance for input.

### Chili Verde

Newsletter of the  
New Mexico Green Party  
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Albuquerque, NM 87106  
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Chili Verde is a quarterly publication of the New Mexico Green Party. We welcome articles, letters to the Editor (200 word limit), questions, comments, advertisements, and, of course, contributions.

All writing, editing and layout is done on a volunteer basis. Submissions are subject to editing for style and length. Opinions expressed in these pages are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the New Mexico Green Party.

**Unified Campaign...***(Continued from page 1)*

for printing/phone costs.

Volunteers currently are needed to canvass from the Albuquerque office every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon and evening. Soon we will be canvassing Monday through Thursday. Call 260-2888 if you want to volunteer.

Party leaders and candidates also have begun traveling around the state to organize campaign teams, so let us know if you can help or be a contact person in your area.

To contact us call 260-2888 in Albuquerque or AI-GREEN in Santa Fe.

The Green Party's candidates for federal and statewide offices this year are:

Abraham Gutmann, U.S. Senate, 244-1107 in Albuquerque or toll-free (888) VOTE-ABE.

Peggy Helgeson, State Corporation Commission, 899-8129.

Jack Uhrich, U.S. Congress, 867-6175.

Ralph Nader, U.S. President, (800) GO-NADER.

**Composting...***(Continued from page 1)*

In addition to the bins, residents picked up composting tips. Participants also learned how to build an even larger compost system for large households, businesses, schools and community centers.

The Backyard Compost Committee shared its experience learned from building about nine Compost Bin Systems at local elementary schools and the Boys and Girls Club.

The bins were built from pallets diverted from local landfills.

The Green Party's Nate Downey of Santa Fe Permaculture gave an informational talk on permaculture, erosion control, water harvesting and composting.

Thanks to Nancy Judd, John Otter, Chris Reece, Nate Downey, Michael Collins, Blanche Brody, Marion Seymore, and Colleen McCarthy for making this a successful community-outreach event.

**Green victories...***(Continued from page 1)*

to single-digit showings.

The New Mexico Greens have chosen their races carefully, and built their electoral efforts on a backbone of community organizing and issue-oriented activism.

Our past races, from local to congressional, are:

**Fran Gallegos, 44% (won), 1996**

Municipal Judge (Santa Fe)

**Miguel Chavez, 33%, 1996**

City Council (Santa Fe dist. 3)

**Cris Moore, 33% (won), 1994**

City Council (Santa Fe dist. 2)

**Don Brayfield, 32%, 1994**

County Assessor (Santa Fe County)

**Fran Gallegos, 43%, 1994**  
Magistrate Judge (Santa Fe County)

**Abraham Gutmann, 42%, 1992**

State Legislature (Taos)

**Lorenzo Garcia, 33%, 1994**

State Treasurer

**Patricia Wolff, 12%, 1994**

Land Commissioner

**Roberto Mondragon and Steven Schmidt, 10%, 1994**

Governor/Lt. Governor

**Rex Johnson, 5%, 1994**

U.S. Congress

Green organizers believe these numbers show that the "local strategy" works: building a base in Municipal and County elections, and working toward being able to win higher-level races.

The Greens have elected people to local office in twelve states, including a County Commissioner in Hawai'i, a Mayor in Alaska, School Board members in California and Arizona, and City Council members in California, New Mexico, Missouri, Arkansas, North Carolina, New York, Connecticut, Maine and Wisconsin.

To our knowledge, Fran is the first Green elected to a judicial position.



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# In a neighborhood near you ...

## Bernalillo County

Things seem to be coming together for the Greens in Bernalillo County as they move into a new donated office space near Louisiana and Montgomery streets.

"That will go a long way toward making us a stable and active party," County Co-chair Steve Cabiedes said. This space was donated by Michael Montroy. The local also has a smaller office space downtown.

Bernalillo County Greens also recently completed the first phase of their Green Machine project by distributing more than 25 green bicycles in densely populated areas of Albuquerque. The bicycles are available for anyone to use.

Co-chair Jennifer Tobin helped lead the project. She recently left for an extended trip to Europe, and the local is seeking someone new to fill the co-chair position.

Other local successes include participating in strike demonstrations at Leatherbacker Industries, where workers walked off the job to protest unsafe conditions and low pay. The company later reached an agreement with the strikers.

Local Greens, along with Sandoval County Greens, turned out about 40 people to support a rally for the AFL-CIO's "America Needs A Raise" campaign. The two local also generated considerable support for a rally to save the Petroglyph National Monument from road construction plans.

The local usually features a speaker and/or discussion the first Thursday of each month at the Harwood Arts Center (7th and Mountain) and conducts its business meetings at the UNM Law School the third Wednesday of each month.

To confirm meeting times and for more information call the local Green Hotline at 260-2888 or Cabiedes at 884-3466.

## Cibola County

Cibola County Greens are taking on big business and big government by fielding two candidates for November's election. County Co-chair Mary Lou Jones is running for the state House, while County Co-chair J. Scott Jones is running for county commissioner.

Mary Lou said in the past they have been successful in blocking plans to send incinerated medical waste into the air and have stopped plans to put a PNM power line through the area.

They also helped stop a money-losing tourist railroad, she said. Instead, they have encouraged low-impact tourism by plotting 14 miles of the Continental Divide Trail and working on the Zuni Mountain Coalition's Mountain Bike Tour, Mary Lou said.

The current hot issue is plans by local politicians to make the area even more prison-dependent by expanding on the three prisons already there, she said.

The Joneses, who publish the Zuni Mountain Citizen, say the officials have not involved the public in

*(Continued on page 5)*

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# Greens taking the initiative ...

(Continued from page 4)  
the decision-making process.

"(We) believe that openness in government and an informed society are the foundations of a just society," the Joneses stated. For more information contact Mary Lou or Scott at 285-5018.

## Doña Ana County

The Green message is getting out in Doña Ana County thanks to some hard work here. The Doña Ana Greens set up a booth during Fourth of July celebrations to answer questions and offer information about the Green Party, County Co-chair John Nygaard said.

The Doña Ana Greens meet about once a month to discuss ideas and plan activities, he said. To find out more call Nygaard (527-4729), Co-chair Christopher Good (521-3791), or Co-chair Paul Osorio (521-0026).

## Rio Arriba County

Rio Arriba Greens have more than doubled their membership in recent months thanks to active voter registration at supermarkets and other public places.

The Greens here also have been networking with other groups, and usually feature a talk by other organizers and groups at their bimonthly meetings. County Co-chair Risk Lass said.

The local Greens also enjoyed a July 4 picnic with the Taos County Greens, and are planning another in several weeks, Lass said. Works also are underway to organize a candidates forum, he said.

For more information contact Lass at 753-3438 or Co-chair Christina Brown at 753-3379.

## San Juan County

San Juan Greens are taking an active role in opposing federal legislation that would allow open-pit coal mining and oil drilling in much of the region's wilderness areas. County Chair Ken Rustad said the San Juan local has joined the Southern Utah Wilderness Coalition to oppose the strip-mining, which would destroy much of the area's ecology and beauty.

The San Juan Greens recently appeared as signers of a Coalition ad in The New York Times and have an active letter-writing campaign underway, Rustad said. The Coalition's goal is ensure that national and state parks are not turned into ecological islands, but instead have connections that promote biodiversity and

tourism, Rustad said. Recent studies have shown Utah derives 40 percent of its jobs from tourism, and only 2 percent from mining, he said. One plan by Dutch International would ship stripped coal out of the country, he said. To help call Rustad at 325-9194.

(Continued on page 6)

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## San Miguel County

Greens in San Miguel County recently participated in the groundbreaking for a new recycle transfer station in Las Vegas. County Co-Chair Sam Cottle said the new station, which is being built by the city, will help local Greens and other residents who are actively promoting recycling.

The transfer station will be ready in about six months, and will add to other city recycling programs, Cottle said. For more information call Cottle at 454-0992.

## Sandoval County

The Sandoval County Greens are spending much of their time supporting county Co-chair Jack Uhrich in his effort to get elected to Congress.

The campaign has been successful to date, winning considerable media coverage with the help of opponent John McCall during the Green Primary.

Members also have been active in the "America Needs A Raise" campaign in cooperation with the Bernalillo County Greens and the AFL-CIO. The two locals turned out more than 40 members at a recent rally to support an increased minimum wage.

The two locals also are giving strong support to efforts to save the Petroglyph National Monument from being paved through. So far the monument has been spared, but developers have other plans.

The Sandoval County Greens also have published a newsletter, which can be viewed on their Web site at [www.swcp.com/~mepomuc/green/green.htm](http://www.swcp.com/~mepomuc/green/green.htm).

County Co-Chair Rose Shaw said the local also is considering other projects. They meet the second Thursday of each month at the Bernalillo Town Hall in the Council chambers at 7 p.m.

To learn more call Shaw at 892-3480 or Uhrich at 867-9350.

## Santa Fe County

Santa Fe County Greens are celebrating two recent successes with the election of a Green candidate for municipal

judge and a popular compost bin sale. (See stories Page 1).

Fran Gallegos became the state's second elected Green on March 5 when voters chose her for Santa Fe Municipal Judge.

Local Greens also helped sponsor a composting event where more than 800 households bought low-cost compost bins and learned about composting.

Other Santa Fe projects include a barter currency project, where community members perform services for each other and "bank" the time spent. This "banked" time can then be used as barter to hire other participants in the program.

Local Greens also help operate a food program where members pay a fee and perform community service in exchange for regular supplies of groceries. This allows participants to lower their food bills and creates good will in the community.

The Santa Fe County Greens meet every Tuesday for discussion and to conduct business.

For information contact Co-chair Miguel Chavez at 984-8125 or Co-chair Christine Reece at 473-4024.

## Taos County

Taos County Greens recently cleaned up a stretch of local highway and joined the "Adopt-A-Highway" program. County Co-chair Marsha Carter said the activity has helped attract active members.

The group's next step is to create "Toss No More For Favor" road signs to place along the

adopted stretch.

Local Greens also actively recycle glass and cans, Carter said, and they provide publicity about events and information to members via a local newsletter.

Taos County Greens also hosted a July 4 picnic and invited the Rio Arriba County Greens to share experiences and ideas, Carter said.

To contact the Taos County Greens call Carter at 751-7032, or Co-chair Cliff Bain at 776-8486.

## Valencia County

While few in numbers the Valencia County Greens have played an active role in organizing the state party and spreading the green message.

County Co-chairs Alberto Perea and Debar Tenney said they meet informally about once each month, and are always looking for new members.

One of their current concerns is the high volume of nuclear waste that is likely to pass through the county on one of the two railroads there if the WIPP nuclear dump opens up in southeastern New Mexico as planned.

For more information or to find out meeting times contact Perea at 864-3177.



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...and many more. You'll come back a more effective organizer than before. If you're interested in leading/coordinating a workshop, please call for an application.

Workshops and panels will run Thursday evening August 15th-Sunday, August 18th. The Greens/Green Party USA Congress will be held Sunday/Monday, August 18th-19th. A separate presidential nomination of Ralph Nader is scheduled for Monday, August 19th.

For those driving, UCLA requires parking permits at \$5/day (some free off-campus parking with local Greens is available). Registration begins at noon on Thursday.

For more information call the Site Committee c/o Mike Feinstein at (310) 392-8450, Lynne Serpe at (310) 473-3896, or email <mfeinstein@igc.apc.org>. Please let us know if you're willing to do outreach in your area.

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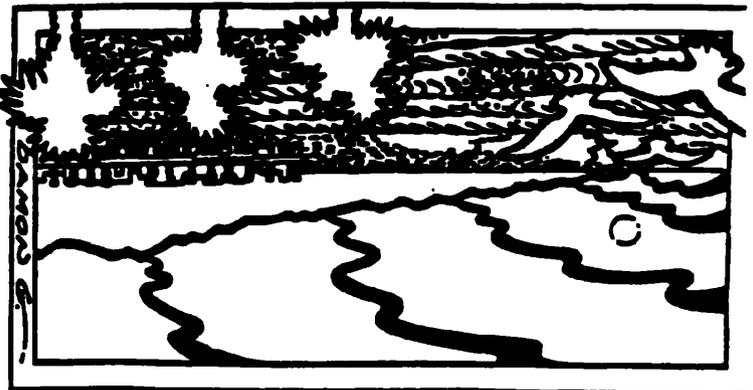
The Green movement is a fast-growing, global response to the unsustainability of our lifestyle on this planet. It is based on values like social justice, ecology, grassroots democracy and non-violence.

In the United States and over 70 countries worldwide, Greens have formed into political parties. These Green Parties stand on two legs: one in electoral work through candidates, initiatives and referenda, and one in community projects and grassroots social change movements.

In the United States, Greens have had great success in local elections. Currently Greens hold elected municipal or county seats in Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, and Wisconsin. On the state and national levels, Greens have received over 40% for state legislature, 10% for governor and 13% for US Senate.

At the same time Greens contest within the system, they also seek to change it. In recent years Greens have been in the forefront of efforts to enact Campaign Finance Reform and to replace the winner-take-all system with Proportional Representation. In the long run, Greens seek to move towards forms of bottom-up, direct democracy.

Around the globe, there are Green parties in 75 countries on six continents, including Green parties in 21 countries in Africa. Greens have been elected to parliament in over a dozen countries across Europe and to the European Parliament, as well as to the Australian Senate, the Brazilian and Taiwanese Congresses and the Mexican House of Deputies. On the state and municipal level, thousands of Greens have been elected in a variety of countries. In August 1996, Greens from over a dozen countries are expected to attend Green Gathering '96.



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## GREEN GATHERING '96

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# Even grass roots need a little watering

By Abraham Gutmann  
Green Candidate for US Senate

The prospects for the Green Party have never been brighter. Now that the Primary Election is over our candidates have been out there campaigning at mass events: Summerfest, July 4th celebrations, fiestas, concerts.

I personally have been thrilled at just how positive an image this Party enjoys among New Mexicans at large. This positive image, combined with generalized disgust at the two-party system should translate into victory, or at least very significant numbers in the November election.

Your candidates have the enthusiasm and energy to meet many thousands of people, and have been attracting volunteers to begin the process of canvassing the state with Green Party and

candidate literature. I hope that you will become a volunteer in this grassroots effort.

However, the one area in which we are chronically, and might I say, desperately falling short is in financing our campaigns.

Even a totally volunteer effort requires money for printing literature, sign-making material, travel expenses etc.

As you may know, your candidates one and all are people of humble financial resources, and in the case of some, very low-income, because of large amounts of time spent in organizing this party and related activism.

Most candidates have freed themselves of most other commitments until November, and are willing to shake hands and give out information in parking lots, in front of post offices - wherever

people go on a regular basis.

This may be our best chance to break through the barriers created by cost-prohibitive TV and radio time. But we cannot afford to keep even brochures in print without your help.

Please use the enclosed envelope to send a contribution to the Party or to any of the candidates.

If you are well off, please contribute at least \$100. If you are low-income, please try to send at least \$10 or \$15. If you are middle income, please try to contribute at least \$25 or \$50.

This Party will rise or fall on the willingness of its members to support it.

We receive no PAC or corporate money, and we cannot depend on the sparse contributions of supporters from outside the Party. It all depends on you.

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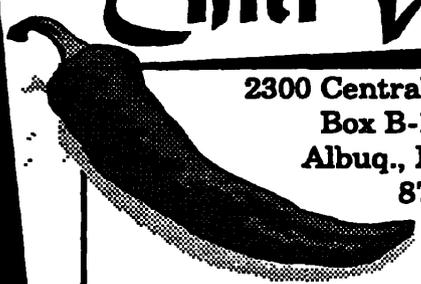
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# Chili Verde

Newsletter of the New Mexico Green Party

## Welcome to Chili Verde

*Hello New Mexico! After struggling for almost a year to open better communications with our members and supporters, we have finally launched Chili Verde, our first quarterly newsletter.*

*This newsletter is for you, and we encourage you to take advantage of it by submitting articles, letters and advertisements.*

*We also must shamelessly ask for money for Chili Verde. This newsletter must be self-supporting. All Green Party activities are volunteer efforts motivated by the desire to improve our own lives in cooperation with others.*

*As you know, cooperation is a bad word in the current political and economic power centers, so we don't get the kind of payoffs delivered to the*

*two-party monopoly. To put it simply, this newsletter will live or die based on our response from you, our readers.*

*Please use the enclosed envelope to help out. Even if you can't spare a few dollars, let us know you want to receive future newsletters so we can put you on our permanent mailing list. We try to reach as many greens as we can.*

*We at Chili Verde also must thank the community-based businesses that have taken a chance on us by taking out advertising. Without your support, this newsletter would not have happened.*

*We hope we can all work*

*together to form a better place to live and work. Please consider our advertisers when shopping for products and services, and let them know you saw their ads here.*

*Our party has grown from just 700 members when it gained major party status in November 1994 to more than 5,000 today, and we're growing every day.*

*This leap has created enormous opportunities for reversing the trend toward social disintegration and environmental destruction that has crept into our communities. But it also has created new challenges in our ground-up party building efforts.*

*We have a lot of catching up to do, so hope to hear from you soon!*



**FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

Washington, DC 20463

November 4, 1997

Tammy Davis and Rick Lass, Co-Chairs  
Green Party of New Mexico  
PO Box 22485  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Ms. Davis and Mr. Lass:

This refers to your letter dated September 27, 1997 (received October 28, 1997), which requests advice concerning application of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), to the possible status of the Green Council of the Green Party of New Mexico ("the Green Council") as the State party committee of the Green Party of New Mexico ("the State Party").

As evidence of your possible status, you submit a copy of the Council's affiliation agreement with the Association of State Green Parties signed by State Party officers, a copy of the State Party's news letter, and certificates showing the official ballot returns of various Federal candidates listed on these ballots as Green Party candidates.

The Act authorizes the Commission to issue an advisory opinion in response to a "complete written request" from any person with respect to a specific transaction or activity by the requesting person. 2 U.S.C. §437f(a). Commission regulations explain that such a request "shall include a complete description of all facts relevant to the specific transaction or activity with respect to which the request is made." 11 CFR 112.1(c).

Your inquiry requires a more complete description of the facts in order to proceed with an advisory opinion. Therefore, please provide the following information:

1. Your request quotes the State Party's Bylaws. This document was inadvertently left out of your submission. Please provide a copy of these bylaws, as well as any other governing documents for the Green Council and the State Party. \*

\* Bylaws now received and included with ADR 1997-29

PL 12-30-97

2. Your letter indicates an affiliation with the Association of State Green Parties. Please indicate the relationship, if any, between your organization and Greens/Green Party USA, the requester in Advisory Opinion 1996-35 (copy enclosed). Also indicate the relationship, if any, between your organization and the New York State Green Party, the requester in Advisory Opinion 1996-43 (copy enclosed) which is cited in your submission. Describe your organization's relationship with any other political organization within the Green political movement in the State of New Mexico or any other national political Green movement organization. A letter from the Association of State Green Parties or any other national party organization recognizing your committee's claim to State Party status should be provided.

3. As noted above, your request lists Green Party Federal candidates who attained ballot access in New Mexico. Provide signed statements from these candidates showing support or affinity with the Green Council's attempt to gain State Party committee status. Any letter submitted should be signed, should identify the author as a current or past Green Party candidate for Federal office, should acknowledge the authority of the Green Council to represent the Green Party in New Mexico and should state that candidate's support for the Green Council's request for State party committee status. All such letters should be provided to you, and you should then submit them to this office.

Upon receiving your responses to the foregoing request for additional information and documents, this office and the Commission will give further consideration to your inquiry in the advisory process. If there are any questions concerning the advisory opinion process or this letter, please contact Michael Marinelli, at (202) 219-3400.

Sincerely,

Lawrence M. Noble  
General Counsel

BY: N. Bradley Litchfield/mj  
N. Bradley Litchfield  
Associate General Counsel

Enclosures:  
Advisory Opinions 1996-43 and 1996-35

The Green Party of New Mexico  
PO Box 22485, Santa Fe, NM 87502

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December 16, 1997

Federal Election Commission  
Office of the General Counsel  
Attn: N. Bradley Litchfield  
999 E Street N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20463

AOR 1997-29

Dear Mr. Litchfield,

Your letter to us dated November 4, 1997 in response to our letter to the FEC dated September 27, 1997 requests additional information to proceed with an advisory opinion for State party committee status for the Green Party of New Mexico. The following information should be added to our file in order to assist you in your opinion.

- 1) Our New Mexico Green Party Bylaws/Uniform State Rules have been forwarded to you by separate cover and should have been received by this date. These Bylaws are on file with the New Mexico Secretary of State. It might be noted again that the Green Party of New Mexico is a "major party" in New Mexico, the first third party in our state history to achieve this standing.
- 2) In response to your question to "indicate the relationship, if any, between your organization and the Greens/Green Party USA", the Green Party of New Mexico and the Green Council of the Green Party of New Mexico are not affiliated with the Greens/Green Party USA. The Green Party of New Mexico does not recognize the Greens/Green Party USA as the legitimate national organization of the Green Party in the United States. In response to your question to "indicate the relationship, if any, between your organization and the New York State Green Party [sic], the requester in Advisory Opinion 1996-43", the Advisory Opinion 1996-43 was submitted by the organization "Green Party of New York State" (GPONYS). See Advisory Opinion 1996-43 at 1 (stating that the request inquired into the "possible status of the operations of the Green Party of New York as a State party committee of the Green Party of New York"). The Green Party of New Mexico and the Green Council of the Green Party of New Mexico do not maintain any relationship with the Green Party of New York State. In response to your question to "[D]escribe your organization's relationship with any other political organization within the Green political movement in the State of New Mexico or any other national political Green movement organization", the Green Party of New Mexico is solely affiliated with the Association of State Green Parties (ASGP) at the national level. A letter from the ASGP is being sent to you, by separate

Page Two  
December 16, 1997

cover, recognizing our committee's claim to State Party status. The Green Party of New Mexico does not maintain any relationship with any other political organization within the Green political movement in the state of New Mexico or nationally.

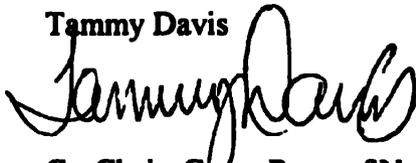
3) As requested in your letter, accompanying our response are letters from Green Party Federal candidates who have attained ballot access in New Mexico. These letters attest to the signer's candidacy, acknowledge the authority of the Green Council to represent the Green Party in New Mexico, and state the candidate's support for the Green Council's request for State party committee status.

We trust that upon receiving the information requested the advisory opinion process will be completed and State party committee status conferred on the Green Party of New Mexico.

Again, we thank you for your attention to this matter.

Signed this date of *DECEMBER 16, 1997*

Tammy Davis



Co-Chair, Green Party of New Mexico

Rick Lass



Co-Chair, Green Party of New Mexico

**Abraham Gutmann  
1208 ½ Coal Place  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106**

**N. Bradley Litchfield  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
Washington D.C. 20463**

**November 23, 1997**

**Dear Commissioners,**

**I am writing you regarding your request for information on my campaign for federal office as a member of the Party of New Mexico. I am a registered New Mexico Green and was when I declared my campaign for Congress. I would note the following important points concerning my campaign:**

**First, I was required, by the New Mexico Secretary of State's Office, to raise a certain number of signatures to be on the ballot as a member of the New Mexico Green Party.**

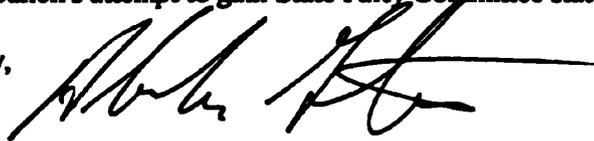
**Second, after gathering enough petition signatures to get on the ballot I attended the State Green Party Pre-primary Convention. This convention was convened by the State Green Council of the New Mexico Green Party. Organized Green Party locals in the state participated by holding county conventions and nominating delegates to the convention as per the New Mexico Green Party Bylaws/Rules.**

**Third, at the pre-primary convention I achieved 20% or greater of the convention vote for my office in order to be on the ballot in the Green Primary.**

**Fourth, I obtained a majority of the vote in the primary election and then became the nominee of the New Mexico Green Party and was placed on the ballot for the general election.**

**As former Chairperson of the State Green Council I wish to express my continuing affinity and affiliation with the New Mexico Green Party. I support the Green Council's attempt to gain State Party Committee status. I also acknowledge the present and past authority of the New Mexico State Green Council to represent the Green Party of New Mexico. Thank you for your attention to this important matter concerning the New Mexico State Green Party and the Green Council's attempt to gain State Party Committee status.**

**Sincerely,**



**Abraham Gutmann  
1996 Green Party candidate for U.S. Senate  
State of New Mexico**

**John A. "Jack" Uhrich**  
2 Cuchilla de Lupe  
Placitas, New Mexico 87043  
e-mail: juhrich@swcp.com  
Phone: 505-867-9350  
Fax: 505-291-0332  
December 1, 1997

N. Bradley Litchfield, Esq.  
Office of General counsel  
Federal Elections Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20463

Dear Sir:

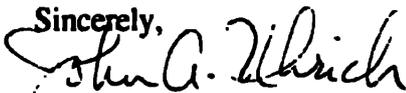
I am writing to you regarding your request for information on my campaign for federal office as a member of the Green Party of New Mexico. I am a registered member of the Green Party of New Mexico, and was a member when I declared my campaign for Congress. I would note the following important facts concerning my campaign:

1. I was required, by the New Mexico Secretary of State's Office, to raise a certain number of signatures to be on the ballot as a member of the Green Party of New Mexico.
2. After gathering enough petition signatures to get on the ballot, I attended the Green Party of New Mexico's pre-primary Convention. This convention was convened by the State Green Council of the Green Party of New Mexico, which called the Convention. Organized Green Party locals in the state participated by holding county conventions and nominating delegates to the convention, as per the Bylaws-Rules of the Green Party of New Mexico.
3. At the pre-primary convention I achieved 20% or greater of the convention vote for my office in order to be on the ballot in the Green Party primary.
4. I obtained a majority of the vote in the primary election and then became the nominee of the Green Party of New Mexico to run for U.S. Congress, 1st District.

As a Sandoval County representative to the State Green Council, I wish to express my continuing affinity and affiliation with the Green Party of New Mexico. I support the Green Council's attempts to gain State Party Committee status. I also acknowledge the present and past authority of the New Mexico State Green Council to represent the Green Party of New Mexico.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter concerning the Green Party of New Mexico and the State Green Council's attempts to gain State Party Committee status.

Sincerely,



John A. "Jack" Uhrich  
1996 Candidate for U.S. Congress, District One  
Green Party of New Mexico

Rex Johnson  
Address: 713 W. 6th Street  
Silver City, New Mexico  
88061

N. Bradley Litchfield, Esq.  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
Washington D.C. 20463

November 23, 1997

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to you regarding your request for information on my campaign for federal office as a member of the Green Party of New Mexico. I am a registered New Mexico Green and was when I declared my campaign for Congress. I would note the following important facts concerning my campaign.

1) I attended the State Green Party Convention in 1994 seeking the New Mexico Green Party nomination for U.S. Congress in District Two of New Mexico. This convention was convened by the New Mexico Green Party. Organized Green Party locals in the state participated by sending delegates to the convention as per the New Mexico Green Party Rules-Bylaws.

2) Over 80% of the state convention voted to accept my candidacy as a Green for Congress in District Two. I met the requirements of the New Mexico Green Party Rules-Bylaws to be placed on the ballot and was placed on the ballot by the New Mexico Secretary of State and Bureau of Elections.

3) I went on to campaign as the Green candidate for U. S. Congress in District Two in the general election of 1994.

I wish to express my continuing affinity and affiliation with the New Mexico Green Party. I support the Green Council's attempt to gain State Party Committee status. I also acknowledge the present and past authority of the New Mexico State Green Council to represent the Green Party of New Mexico. Thank you for your attention to this important matter concerning the New Mexico State Green Party and the Green Council's attempt to gain State Party Committee status.

Sincerely,



Rex Johnson  
1994 Green Party candidate  
U. S. Congress, District Two  
State of New Mexico

Carol Miller  
P.O. Box 98  
Ojo Sarco, New Mexico 87550

Office of Chief Counsel  
Federal Elections Commission  
Washington D.C. 20463

November 20, 1997

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to you regarding your request for information on my campaign for federal office as a member of the Green Party of New Mexico. I am a registered New Mexico Green and was when I declared my campaign for Congress. I would note the following important facts concerning my campaign.

1. I attended the State Green Party Special Election Nominating Convention in 1997 seeking the New Mexico Green Party nomination for U.S. Congress in District Three of New Mexico. This convention was convened by the State Green Council of the New Mexico Green Party. Organized Green Party locals in the state participated by holding county conventions and nominating delegates to the convention as per the New Mexico Green Party Bylaws.
2. I was selected by the State Convention to represent the Green Party in the special election for Congress in New Mexico's Third District in 1997.
3. I went on to campaign as the Green candidate for U.S. Congress in District Three in the special election of 1997.

I wish to express my continuing affinity and affiliation with the New Mexico Green Party. I support the Green Council's attempt to gain State Party Committee status. I also acknowledge the present and past authority of the New Mexico State Green Council to represent the Green Party of New Mexico.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter concerning the New Mexico State Green Party and the Green Council's attempt to gain State Party Committee status.

Sincerely,



Carol Miller  
1997 Green Party candidate for  
U.S. Congress, District Three  
State of New Mexico